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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 TRSE-00 /059 W
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FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 178
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJ: RHEINLAND-PFALZ CDU REITERATES SUPPORT FOR KOHL

1. RHEINLAND-PFALZ CDU CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN UNITY AT TRIER NOVEMBER 25-26, (SEE SEPMSG), ALLOWED HELMUT KOHL'S HOME BASE TO DEMONSTRATE UNRESERVED SUPPORT FOR HIM AS OPPOSITION LEADER. IN INTRODUCING KOHL, WHO HAVE THE PRINCIPAL ADDRESS ON NOVEMBER 26, RHEINLAND-PFALZ ECONOMICS MINISTER HEINRICH HOLKENBRINK PRAISED KOHL'S PRAGMATIC LEADERSHIP AND CONCLUDED, TO RINGING APPLAUSE, "THERE IS FOR US ONLY ONE CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE IN THE UNION PARTIES".
2. MINISTER-PRESIDENT BERNHARD VOGEL ALSO CRITICIZED SPECULATION REGARDING A FOURTH PARTY. THIS WOULD ADD ANOTHER DIMENSION TO THE PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING A CANDIDATE FOR
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CHANCELLOR AND COST THE COALITION PARTIES THE NEXT BUNDESTAG ELECTION. "WHOEVER DOESN'T COMPREHEND THIS WILL BE THE FIRST TO LOSE", EXCLAIMED VOGEL.

3. KOHL CLEARLY RELISHED BEING ON HOME TURF. HE RECALLED THAT, UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP, THE

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CDU/CSU COALITION HAD WON THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE
OF VOTES IN THE 1976 BUNDESTAG ELECTIONS, AND
HE TERMED SCHMIDT A MINORITY LEADER WHO CAN RUN
THE COUNTRY ONLY WITH THE HELP OF THE OPPOSITION.
HE ASSERTED IT IS "OUR DUTY" TO ASSIST THE SPD/
FDP FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS LONG AS IT BEHAVES
RESPONSIBLY. LIKE THE OTHER SPEAKERS DURING THE
CONFERENCE, HE DID NOT REFER TO STRAUSS, BUT
HE DID GET A RINGING OVATION WHEN HE CASTIGATED
BOTH "FASCIST MILITARISM" IN CHILE AND
COMMUNITY DICTATORSHIPS IN EASTERN EUROPE.

4. COMMENT: KOHL LEFT TRIER ASSURED OF THE
SUPPORT OF HIS NATIVE LAND IN HIS CONTINUING
STRUGGLE TO RETAIN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COALITION PARTIES.
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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TAGS: PINT, GE
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